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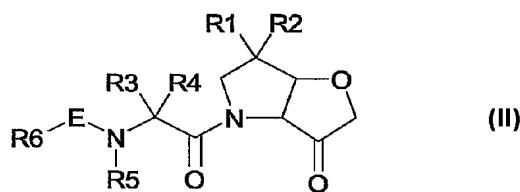
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(54) Title: CYSTEINE PROTEASE INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: A compound of the formula (II) wherein one of R¹ and R² is halo and the other is H or halo; R³ is C₁-C₄ straight or branched chain, optionally fluorinated, alkyl; R⁴ is H; or R³ together with R⁴ and the adjoining backbone carbon defines: a spiro-C₅-C₇ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from halo, hydroxyl, C₁-C₄ alkyl or C₁-C₄ haloalkyl; or optionally bridged with a methylene group; or a C₄-C₆ saturated heterocycle having a hetero atom selected from O, N(Ra), S, S(=O)₂; where Ra is H, C₁-C₄ alkyl or CH₃C(=O); R⁵ is independently selected from H or methyl; E is -C(=O)-, -S(=O)m-, -NR⁵S(=O)m-, -NR⁵C(=O)-, -OC(=O)-; R⁶ is a stable, optionally substituted, monocyclic or bicyclic, carbocycle or heterocycle; m is independently 0, 1 or 2; are inhibitors of cathepsin K and useful in the treatment or prophylaxis of osteoporosis.

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